

Healthcare Financial Management Webinar:

Maintaining stroke as a priority

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Stroke Association

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Stroke
Association

stroke.org.uk

What should happen when stroke survivors leave hospital?

According to RCP stroke guidelines:

- Stroke survivors should have access to specialist services.
- Treatment at home should begin within 24 hours of discharge.
- Early supported discharge teams should provide rehabilitation and care at the same intensity as on stroke units.
- Six months and 1 year reviews should be offered.

What were the unmet needs of stroke survivors in the UK before Covid-19?

Lack of rehabilitation, joined-up care and access to support:

- 45% of stroke survivors told us that they felt abandoned once leaving hospital
- Only 32% of patients were benefitting from a six-month review after stroke
- One in four stroke survivors told us they did not receive enough support when they needed it most

How has the pandemic impacted the needs of stroke survivors in the UK?

- Stroke survivors continue to tell us they **feel abandoned**
- **Lack of rehabilitation** and joined-up care is still impacting recoveries
- Moving to **digital methods of care** has affected stroke survivors differently
- Some stroke survivors are feeling **isolated, lonely, anxious and depressed**
- Family members and carers are providing additional support

Quotes from stroke survivors

- ‘The care I received whilst in hospital has been fantastic! Ambulance crew, doctors and nurses, all wonderful! Sadly, in the outside world, it’s nothing but Covid-19, all else has been ignored’.
- ‘It’s just hard to access post hospital services. My GP and pharmacist have been great but there’s nothing else really’.

Quotes from carers

- 'I have needed to be physio, psychologist, friend, communicator, carer, motivator and much more'.
- 'I have no chance of getting a respite break in the near future'.
- The 'situation has put more pressure on me as a Carer'.

Quotes from family members

- ‘We just feel frustrated that not only did the stroke happen, but the timing meant they got less care than 'normal’.
- ‘My mum has severe dysphasia and with no speech therapy for 5 weeks whilst with me, and limited speech therapy whilst in hospital, her progress is not what it should be. This is severely impacting on her recovery and well-being’.
- ‘We feel that my father’s care, follow up and any further rehabilitation has been zero since discharge’.

Stroke Association's response

We have adapted and developed our services



Here for you



**Stroke
Association
Connect**



- **Life After Stroke Grants**
- **Helpline**
- **Stroke groups**
- **My Stroke Guide**
- **Updated website**
- **Staying Active**
- **Emotional Support**

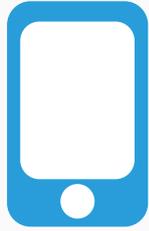


Jim's story

Find out how we've helped Jim to rebuild his life and how we're developing new ways to be there for stroke survivors, and our NHS.

[Watch Jim's video →](#)

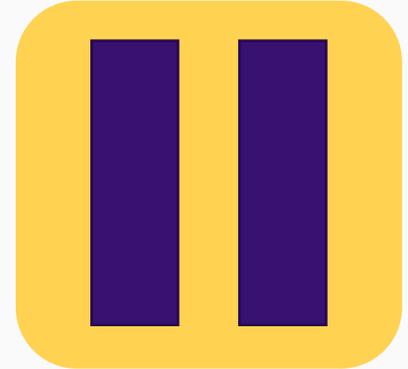
We are volunteering differently



**Adapting to volunteer
remotely**



**Supporting volunteer's
wellbeing**



**Inviting volunteers
to take a break**

What are we learning about stroke services from COVID-19?

- The pandemic has increased stroke survivors' feelings of loneliness and abandonment.
- We need to ensure rehabilitation pathways are prioritised and stroke remains a key clinical priority for UK governments.
- It's more important than ever that a personalised approach to care is implemented.
- We are adapting and developing services at pace but we need to evaluate these to understand which are right for the future.

What are we learning from COVID-19?

- Our strategy and values have been our ‘North Star’, helping us prioritise, make rapid decisions, and act quickly.
- We have shown resilience, agility and innovation – including challenging a number of previous truths.
- Collaboration within the charity, with the stroke community, and with other charities has accelerated.
- Visible leadership and proactive open communication and engagement with all stakeholders has been key.
- We need to do more on health inequalities / diversity and inclusion.

Resources

- Stroke Association Connect Service
<https://www.stroke.org.uk/professionals/stroke-association-connect>
- Strengthened patient advice information – including information on coronavirus for stroke survivors
<https://www.stroke.org.uk/finding-support/information-coronavirus-stroke-survivors>

Resources

- My Stroke Guide and chat forums
<https://www.stroke.org.uk/finding-support/my-stroke-guide>
- Our new Stroke recoveries at risk report
<https://www.stroke.org.uk/stroke-recoveries-at-risk-report>



Rebuilding lives
after stroke